

Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

October 2011

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DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

Welcome to Recycling Lines. If you have suggestions on future topics for the newsletter, please send the information to Steve Coe at steve.coe@deq.virginia.gov. We welcome news submittals from the public and local governments.

EPA Launches Green Products Web Portal for Pollution Prevention Week

EPA has launched a new tool designed to provide easy access to information about everyday products like home appliances, electronics, and cleaning products that can save money, prevent pollution, and protect people's health. The new green products web portal is available at <http://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts/> or at <http://www.epa.gov/epp/pubs/about/about.htm>.

Pollution Prevention Week (celebrated September 19-25, 2011) serves to recognize significant pollution prevention work around the country and help consumers get involved in pollution prevention. EPA's new green products web portal is an easy way for all Americans to learn about products that prevent pollution and protect our environment.

Using the new tool, you can find electronics and appliances that have earned EPA's Energy Star label and you can browse WaterSense products that help save energy and water. Additionally, consumers can find information about cleaning products that are safer for the environment and people's health. These products bear the EPA Design for the Environment (DfE) label. The website will also help manufacturers and institutional purchasers with information on standards and criteria for designing greener products.

"By purchasing greener products, consumers can help reduce air pollution, conserve water and energy, minimize waste and protect their children and families from exposure to toxic chemicals, while also creating green jobs," said Steve Owens, assistant administrator of EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, "Pollution Prevention is good for our health, our environment and our economy." Visit <http://epa.gov/p2/> for more information from EPA on P2.

Fort Lee is "GREEN"

Fort Lee was recently awarded an E-4 certification for its greening of the base, specifically for its environmental programs and green building practices. Fort Lee is the first Virginia Army facility to achieve the E4 certification.

Did You Know?

- More than 5 million pounds of rechargeable batteries have been collected through a partnership between RadioShack Corp. and Call2Recycle, a free battery and cell phone collection program in North America.
- October 29 is National Drug Take-Back Day – See Page 2 and 3 for information and the Virginia contact.

"Recycling is No Joke" Video Contest Launches

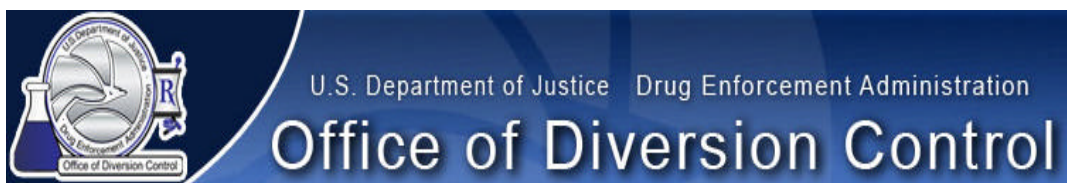
To increase the social media buzz around America Recycles Day, Keep America Beautiful is conducting a video contest for all ages to show that "Recycling is No Joke." Recycling benefits our economy and environment.

Submissions can be anything ranging from a one-liner, to a comic strip or skit about recycling, but the video must show recycling in a positive, humorous manner. The video needs to be uploaded to the America Recycles Day YouTube page (www.youtube.com/AmericaRecyclesDay) by Oct. 21, 2011, as a response to a short video created to explain the competition. The America Recycles Day Video Committee will vote on the top 10 winners and upload them to a YouTube playlist on our America Recycles Day page by Nov. 8, 2011. Then for the next week, the public will pick the winning videos by clicking the "like" button associated with their favorite video. Voting ends on America Recycles Day.

The grand prize will be \$1,000 in cash and members of the winning group (up to five) will also receive a prize pack. The second-place winner will receive \$500 in cash. The Committee also may award additional prizes.

Recycling Markets Workshops a Success

The Southeast Recycling Markets Development Council (SERDC) hosted 3 regional workshops in Virginia in late September. The workshops were held in Wytheville, Stafford, and Hampton. Over 100 participants met and discussed new and expanded market and program opportunities for materials such as paper, glass, metals, aluminum and plastics. SERDC will be developing a report for presentation in November to the VRA Board and membership.



[Drug Disposal](#) > National Take Back Initiative



NATIONAL TAKE BACK INITIATIVE

**October 29, 2011
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

DEA has scheduled another National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on **Saturday, October 29, 2011, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.** to provide a venue for persons who want to dispose of unwanted and unused prescription drugs. Please check back in mid-September to find convenient collection locations in your zip code area, county, city, or state.

Law enforcement agencies that wish to host a collection site should call the Point of Contact for your area.

For Virginia specific information, contact:

Virginia	ASAC Jay Gregorius	804-627-6300
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National Prescription Drug Take Back Day addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. More than seven million Americans currently abuse prescription drugs, according to the 2009 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Each day, approximately, 2,500 teens use prescription drugs to get high for the first time according to the Partnership for a Drug Free America. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including the home medicine cabinet.

DEA in conjunction with state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the United States conducted National Prescription Drug Take Back Days on Saturday, September 25, 2010 and April 25, 2011. Nearly, 4,000 state and local law enforcement agencies

throughout the nation participated in these events, collecting more than 309 tons of pills.

Four days after last fall's Take-Back Day, Congress passed legislation amending the Controlled Substances Act to allow the DEA to develop a process for people to safely dispose of their prescription drugs. DEA immediately began developing this process after President Obama signed the Safe and Secure Drug Disposal Act of 2010 on October 12. Until that process is complete, however, DEA will continue to hold Take Back Days every six months.

[Additional Resources](#)

- [Another Huge Turnout At DEA's National Prescription Drug Take-Back Event](#) (May 06, 2011)
- [Drug Disposal Information](#)
- [FDA – How to Dispose of Unused Medicines](#)
- [FDA – Disposal of Unused Medicines](#)

Recycling & The Economy: A Symposium for the Southeast

The Southeast Recycling Development Council reports fielding an increased number of inquiries from economic development and elected officials eager to get current information when it comes to recycling and its successful economic impact.

"Who doesn't want to learn more about a steadily growing sector providing good paying, green jobs for Americans? This is encouraging news in a discouraging economy and the research to support it keeps coming in," says SERDC Policy Director Will Sagar.

The demand for more details has resulted in the development of the Recycling & the Economy Symposium, October 26-27 in Memphis, Tenn. The symposium offers the opportunity to network with high level recycling and manufacturing representatives from across the region, and to encourage and support the growing movement for increased green jobs in the southeast. Learn more at www.serdc.org/symposium.

DEQ to Host Stakeholders Meeting

On November 3, 2011, Jeff Steers of DEQ's Division of Land Protection and Revitalization will host a stakeholder's meeting in the Roanoke Regional Office. This meeting continues the stakeholder process initiated by DEQ to facilitate information exchanges between the regulated community and the Agency, as well as to provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions about DEQ's regulatory programs.

For more information, contact the DEQ Regional Office at 540-562-6700.

Recycling Web Links of Interest

- 1) www.BraRecycling.com (used bra donation and recycling program)
- 2) <http://americarecyclesday.org/video-contest> (Recycling is No Joke contest information)
- 3) www.serdc.org (Southeast Recycling Markets Council)
- 4) <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/waste/stakeholder.html> (web page that includes the agendas, participant lists, notes and presentations from various stakeholder meetings hosted by the DEQ Division of Land Protection and Revitalization)
- 5) <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2DFAA014B7698C61> ("Unwasted: The Future of Business on Earth," a documentary)

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EPA's Resource Conservation Challenge Web Academy

Join EPA for the 2010-2011 Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Web Academy series as it provides information to materials management stakeholders through a third year of webinars related to EPA's Sustainable Materials Management Program. Learn about key issues, successful projects, and a variety of best management practices for creating stellar waste management programs. Hear from experts around the country on what works and what doesn't, and how to make your program more successful.

Upcoming Webinars (1:00 pm - 2:30 pm EST)

October 20 - Community Recycling Programs: What's Working and What's Not

November 17 - Creating Winning Recycling Programs at Sporting Events

To register for any of these webinars, visit www.epa.gov.

ISRI Study on Economic Benefits of Recycling

A study released by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries Inc. (ISRI) shows that the U.S. recycling industry generates more than \$10 billion in revenue per year and employs more than 450,000 people. The study can be accessed at www.isri.org/2011scrapjobstudy.

Calendar of Events

October 10: Keep Virginia Beautiful Golf Tournament, Stonehenge Golf & Country Club (www.keepvirginiabeautiful.org)

October 19: 6th Annual Potomac Watershed Trash Summit 2011 hosted by the Alice Ferguson Foundation at George Mason University's Founder's Hall, 3351 Fairfax Dr., Arlington, VA from 9:00am until 4:30pm. www.TrashSummit.org

October 19-20: Conference, Virginia Council for Litter Prevention & Recycling. Lynchburg Wingate Hotel. (http://www.cvwma.com/education_and_outreach/litter_prevention/litter_summit.wbp)

October 29: National Drug Take-Back Initiative http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/index.html

November 1: Virginia Recycling Association's Annual Membership Meeting, Charlottesville Omni. (www.vrarecycles.org)

November 3: DEQ Stakeholders Meeting, Roanoke Regional Office, 10 am until 2 pm.

November 15: America/Virginia Recycles Day.